GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1761
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2010
SAND MINING
Singh Shri Uday Pratap

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal sand mining in some of the rivers of Madhya Pradesh such as Narmada, Tava, Dudhi and Chambhal is threatening the life of crocodiles there;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b) As informed by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, no major incidents of illegal sand mining have been reported from Crocodile habitats of Narmada, Dudhi and Tava rivers in the State of Madhya Pradesh. The Chambal river that carries and deposits loads of sand along its course have been traditionally exploited for extraction of sand. Such extraction adversely affects the crocodile habitats of National Chambal Sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh.

(c) The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has been making all efforts to stop illegal sand mining within the Sanctuary. Continuous patrolling of the area is carried out. To keep strict vigil motor boats have also been deployed for patrolling of the area. Joint action by the District Administration, Police and Forest personnel have been taken to control the illegal sand mining. To strengthen the protection of the Sanctuary, ex-army personnel have been deployed along with staff to control such activities.